

December changes (as of 12/29)	
C FUND	+ 1.42 percent
I FUND	+ 3.11 percent
S FUND	+ 0.11 percent

NSPS training begins Monday

By Irene Brown
Chief, Command Information

West Point's garrison commander, Col. Brian Crawford, issued a memorandum Dec. 22 announcing the dates of supervisor and employee National Security Personnel System training here.

The training is part of the NSPS transition process, Crawford explained, and it's one of the most important parts.

"I expect 100 percent participation in this training endeavor," he stated in the memo. "Knowledge is power and it is imperative that we make every effort to learn as much about NSPS as possible."

Roughly 125 of West Point's non-bargaining unit garrison employees are scheduled to enter NSPS as part of Spiral 1.3 in April. The training, two days for supervisors and one day for non-supervisors, is mandatory.

Michael Bilello, the garrison NSPS transition manager, said employees will have some flexibility in choosing dates.

"All requests for specific training dates should be e-mailed to me with a courtesy copy to Jose Roman," he explained. "We will

handle all requests on a first-come, first-served basis."

Training will be held at the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, building 622 here, starting at 8 a.m. for each session. Supervisory training dates are: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Jan. 12 or 16 and 17. Non-supervisory training dates are: Feb. 6, 13 and 20. Supervisors are required to attend one two-day session, non-supervisors are required to attend one, one-day session.

The Department of Defense has been developing NSPS since 2003 and DOD officials said it is intended to replace the outdated civil service rules and tie employees' pay to performance and work objectives to the mission.

"We eventually hope to see all roughly 650,000 DOD civilian employees under the new system," they said.

However, to transition so many people into such a new system, training must be targeted for each and every employee, Bilello explained.

"NSPS training for the workforce is ongoing," he said. "Every major command is providing training for both the performance management and human resource changes in

NSPS and also for 'soft skills' such as supervisory skills and change management."

There are several online courses that not only explain how to navigate NSPS, but also provide tips to managers on how to motivate workers using the system, Bilello said.

"The performance management for managers and supervisors courses are required before any supervisor of civilians, including military supervisors, may evaluate their employees," he added.

Crawford said all garrison employees should educate themselves about NSPS by making use of the various Web sites and online information available.

"Stepping into the future can be intimidating, but the journey can be made easier if you know what is waiting for you when you arrive," he added.

For more information on NSPS, visit <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/>. For more information on the training here, call (845) 938-8193 or send an e-mail to Michael. Bilello@us.army.mil.



A Salute to President Ford

Staff Sgt. Shaun Butcher (kneeling to the left) and Spc. David Puckett, of the Military Police Honor Guard Platoon here, shoot a 75mm pack Howitzer M1A1 Wednesday during a 21-gun salute to honor former President Gerald R. Ford's passing last week.

ERIC S. BARTELT/PV

W-2s available soon online

WASHINGTON (Military Report) -- The Defense Finance and Accounting Service will begin mailing tax statements for 2006 today, but they will be available a few days earlier over the Internet to those signed up for the military's myPay information system.

Availability of the W-2 tax statement needed to prepare income tax returns will vary from branch to branch, DFAS officials said.

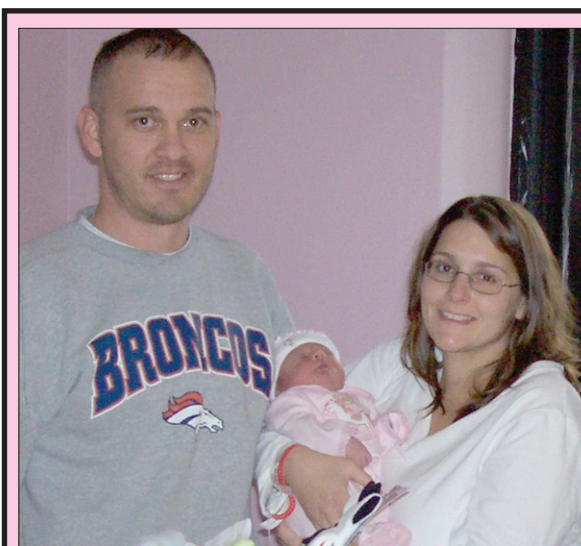
One form will not be available online, officials added. People who have left the service with voluntary

separation pay cannot get a W-2 online, but their income statements will be mailed Jan. 4 and 5.

Army reservists have been able to see their W-2s online since Tues. and DFAS will mail the forms beginning today until Monday.

For the active Army, W-2s will be online Jan. 22 and in the mail Jan. 23 to 29.

The military's secure myPay system at <http://myPay.dfas.mil> requires a military e-mail address or a pre-registered personal e-mail address.

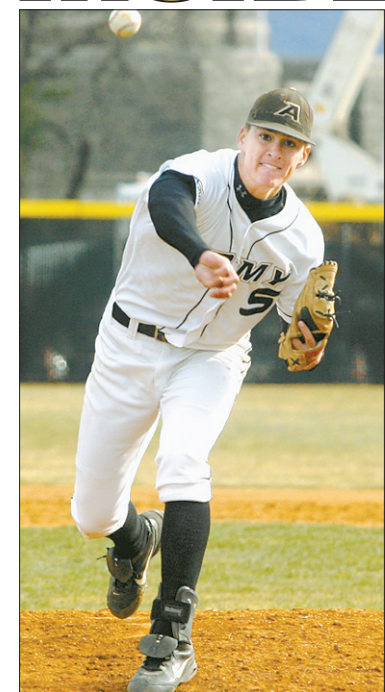


First baby of the New Year

KACH welcomed West Point's first baby of the New Year at 5:49 a.m. Monday. Baby Sarah, born to Maj. Ryan and Michelle Morgan came into the world weighing 8 pounds, 10 ounces and was 20.75 inches long.

PHOTO PROVIDED BY KACH

INSIDE



BASEBALL DUO
page 11

Community Point-of-View

ADCO can help you with your resolutions

By Anne Ashley
ADCO, Employee Assistance
Program Manager

Greetings USMA employees.
Welcome to the New Year.

Let's work together to make it
a joyous one.

Historically, we have become all
too familiar with making the "new
year's resolution" -- sometimes a
list of them.

We make them, we change

them, we break them, some we keep
and some we don't. This month is
typically one used universally for
goal setting, which often involves
change.

The Top 10 New Year's
Resolutions -- according to one
New York Times affiliate 'About'
<http://pittsburgh.about.com/cs/holidays/tp/resolutions.htm> --
include:

- Get Fit with Fitness #2;
- Quit Smoking #4;

- Quit Drinking #6;
- Get out of Debt #7;
- Learn Something New #8
- Get Organized #10.

These resolutions reverberate
"change" all around the world.

We are fortunate here at West
Point because we have a wealth of
resources available to assist civilian
employees in establishing and
successfully attaining new goals,
particularly the above-noted ones.
We also have a 'referral' element of
our Employee Assistance Program.
This can be a valuable component
in getting you off to a good start
by directing you to applicable
information regarding a service we
may not have available in-house.

Other EAP benefits include

various support regarding stressors,
concerns and planning related to
particular pressures we share with
others facing cutbacks, layoffs,
downsizing and the implementation
of 'plan B' supplemental, alternative
job-seeking tactics.

We are entering a year of
challenges within a progressive,
changing culture which may require
a 'dance' or 'juggling act' that we
did not learn the steps to and could
use some assistance.

EAP is available to assist you
with your New Year's resolutions.
We stand ready in the new year to
help you be prepared and equipped
for success at work and with your
personal goals.

Please call to schedule

an appointment or to request
departmental training.

NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION

Establish a Plan
Employee Assistance Program

606 Thayer Rd. (Basement)
(845) 938-2462/2912 (general)
(845) 938-5785 (private)
Hours: Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

SARP INFO

The members of the
Sexual Assault Response and
Prevention Team are Col.
Jeanette McMahon, Shelley
Ariosto (Garrison), Maj.
Samantha Breton (USCC),
Maj. Kim Kawamoto (ODIA)
and Lt. Col. Robbie Williams
(Dean). Community members
can e-mail McMahon at
Jeanette.McMahon@usma.edu
for advice or to offer
any recommendations on the
program here. Cadets can
also call the sexual assault
support helpline at (845) 591-
7215. West Point Soldiers and
civilians needing assistance
can call (845) 938-3369.

Weekly Sudoku by Chris Okasaki, D/EECS

6	5					1	3	
			1	2		5		
	1	7		3	5		4	
	4		7			9		5
3		2			8		6	
	8		2	5		4	7	
		4		7	9			
	6	5					1	9

Rules: Fill in the empty cells with the digits 1-9 so that no

digit appears twice in the same row, column, or 3-by-3 box.

Difficulty: Easy

See Solution on Page 10

POINTER VIEW®

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Franklin L. Hagenbeck,
Superintendent

Lt. Col. Kent P. Cassella,
Director, Public Affairs

Irene D. Brown
Chief, Command Info.
938-8366

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Local and National News

Military housing rates boosted 3.5 percent

By **Gerry J. Gilmore**
Armed Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (Army News Service) -- Servicemembers will receive an average 3.5 percent boost in their basic allowance for housing compensation benefit in 2007, Defense Department officials said.

The planned BAH increase started Monday and works out to about \$300 million more than what was paid in 2006, officials said.

"The continued improvement in housing allowances represents our commitment to the preservation of a compensation and benefit structure which will provide members with a suitable and secure standard of living that will sustain a trained, experienced and ready force in the future," Cynthia Smith, a Department of Defense spokeswoman, said Dec. 18.

Officials said military housing allowances are computed according to three key criteria: median current market rent; average utilities, to include electricity, heat and water/sewer costs; and average renter's insurance.

BAH rates also are based on

dwelling type and number of bedrooms in a given area and then calculated for each pay grade, both with and without family members.

For servicemembers with family members, average increases in the BAH are approximately \$44 per month. For example, a typical specialist/corporal (E-4) will receive about \$34 more in BAH than in 2006, while a master sergeant/first sergeant (E-8) will receive about \$42 more than this year.

The BAH rate system has built-in protections to ensure that an individual servicemember in a given location won't see his or her BAH rate decrease. This provision assures that members who have made long-term lease or contract commitments are not penalized if the area's housing costs decrease.

Some areas' housing costs have remained relatively stable, while others continue to rise. Most of the costliest housing in the United States with the highest BAH rates are clustered on or near the East and West coasts, and the state of Hawaii.

Bush issues order for 2.2 percent pay raise

By **Karen Rutzick**
Govexec.com

President Bush issued an executive order Dec. 21 officially granting white-collar federal employees a 2.2 percent pay raise in 2007.

Federal employees can expect the increase to be factored into their first paycheck of the new year, with the overall raise split between a 1.7 percent across-the-board raise and a 0.5 percent adjustment that will vary by locality.

For 2007, federal officials have changed the formula under which locality differentials are distributed, awarding more money to cities with larger pay gaps between the private and public sectors. Employees in the Washington area will receive a 2.64 percent raise. Those in New York will get 3.03 percent; in Boston, 2.53 percent; and in San Diego, 2.68 percent. In areas outside of major cities, employees will receive a 1.81 percent total raise.

The 2007 pay tables, including the locality pay differentials, can be found at <http://www.opm.gov/oca/07tables/index.asp>.

Congress has not officially passed a civilian pay raise for 2007, so Bush's executive order could be supplanted by a move from lawmakers, prompting a retroactive additional pay hike. But since lawmakers already passed a 2.2 percent raise for the military, it is unlikely that civilians will see the 2.7 percent raise their unions and professional groups advocated.

Soon-to-be House Majority Leader Rep. Steny Hoyer, D-Md., released a statement Dec. 21 blaming the Republican Congress for letting the 2.2 percent raise slip through.

"The failure of the 109th Congress to pass all but two spending bills for fiscal year 2007 has given the administration the opportunity to mandate the lowest annual raise in almost 20 years," Hoyer said.

Still, even if Congress had

finished its spending bills, it is not clear that a 2.7 percent raise would have been passed for civilians.

"We recognize that if the military is at 2.2 percent, it will be very, very difficult to have anything else enacted," said Colleen Kelley, president of the National Treasury Employees Union. "We're going to do everything we can once the new Congress convenes."

This was also the first year that the president proposed an equal raise -- 2.2 percent -- for both the military and civilians. Federal employee groups and members of Congress have long advocated for pay parity between the two.

Locality-based raises became a fixture of federal pay in 1994, following implementation of the 1990 Federal Employees Pay Comparability Act. The act's proponents identified a gap between public and private sector salaries of about 30 percent. The act was designed to close the gap to about 5 percent, but raises under the law have never been fully funded.

Survey, says! TSP participants are satisfied with plan

By Karen Rutzick
Govexec.com

The first survey of Thrift Savings Plan participants in more than 15 years is complete, and TSP officials gave a glimpse of the results at their monthly board meeting Dec. 18.

The TSP, a federal employee 401(k)-style retirement savings plan worth more than \$200 billion, is run by a board of presidentially appointed financiers and a staff of career employees. The board, which has been encouraged by the Government Accountability Office to solicit more feedback, hired consulting firm Watson Wyatt to survey 20,000 TSP participants on their satisfaction with issues ranging from customer service

to automatic enrollment in the program.

Greg Long, director of product development for TSP, said nearly 20 percent of participants responded to the survey, which was sent by mail so as not to exclude investors without Internet access. That rate is enough to glean broad data, but not enough to compare answers among subgroups, such as age ranges. Long said he will issue the first round of results in January and provide another round in the spring, after soliciting more responses.

In summarizing the first set of findings, Long said only 3 percent of participants surveyed were dissatisfied overall with the TSP.

Just 17 percent of participants surveyed preferred or strongly preferred the G Fund, which invests

in ultra-safe government securities, as the default for participants who

neglect to make their own fund selections. The G Fund is the current default.

Twenty-two percent of participants strongly preferred and 27 percent preferred the life-cycle funds, which are mixes of the basic TSP funds that automatically shift toward more conservative blends as participants age, as the default option.

TSP Executive Director Gary Amelio and many of the board members have supported switching the default to the L funds,

and they may ask for legislation to do so in 2007.

Almost 418,000 participants, out of 3.6 million, have put about \$16 billion into the L funds since their inception in August 2005.

The survey comes after GAO issued a report in early 2005 encouraging a more systematic evaluation of the quality of TSP's customer service operation.

Also at the meeting Dec. 18, Amelio and the board discussed rumors, published in the Wall Street Journal and by the BBC, that the Bank of America wants to buy Barclays, which manages the TSP funds. Amelio said he contacted Barclays officials, but they had no comment.

"It's something to watch," Amelio said.



New pay, personnel system on horizon for troops

By Sgt. Sara Wood, USA
American Forces Press
Service

WASHINGTON -- A new system coming in 2008 to the Army and Air Force will integrate pay and personnel and make life easier for servicemembers everywhere, the general in charge of the system's deployment said.

The Defense Integrated

Military Human Resources System, or DIMHRS, integrates the two services' pay and personnel systems into one Web-based system, Army Maj. Gen. Carlos "Butch" Pair, the defense business systems acquisition executive in the Business Transformation Agency, said in an interview.

"DIMHRS is an enterprise solution, really a revolution in how the military is approaching pay and personnel," Pair said. "It's really more than an acronym. It's a solution for the future."

The unique advantage of DIMHRS is that it will be Web-based, accessible from anywhere with a Common Access Card, and will be a one-stop shop for servicemembers with pay and personnel issues, Pair said. Servicemembers will be able to view their entire record, and even make certain changes themselves. "We know that many of our young

Soldiers and airmen today certainly understand how to self-service on the Web," he said.

Army and Air Force commands also will have access to the system to resolve any issues the troops can't handle themselves, Pair said. This will be especially helpful in today's joint environment, where troops from different services fight alongside each other and often aren't near personnel or finance support, he said.

"It's conceivable today that if you're an airman in an Army task force, you might have to get in a Humvee and travel 30 or 40 kilometers to find a personnel service unit to support you," he said. "Under DIMHRS, that won't happen."

The Army will launch DIMHRS in March 2008, followed by the Air Force later that summer, Pair said.

The Navy and Marine Corps have not yet decided whether

to use DIMHRS, but whatever system they select will have to be compatible with DIMHRS, creating a seamless partnership across the military, he said.

When DIMHRS is launched, it will include a requirement that servicemembers can go to any military installation and get their pay or personnel issues resolved, Pair said. "It's about providing and serving our Soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines with the very best possible service that they can get," he said.

The Army and Air Force will start teaching DIMHRS at their personnel and finance schools in 2007, Pair said.

When the system is launched in 2008, the active, Guard and reserve components of the Army and Air Force will all be included at the same time, he said.

The concept for DIMHRS was

first developed about 10 years ago, when pay and personnel problems arose in the first Gulf War, Pair said.

The system has been developed over the years to solve problems such as a lag in pay when reservists or Guardsmen are activated or pay inaccuracies for active-duty troops, he said.

This new system is long overdue, because the individual systems the services have are outdated and don't work well together, Pair said. The Army alone has more than 70 different systems, he said, which haven't been refreshed in a long time.

"Here we are [in 2007] and it's just time to realize some savings that new types of software and solutions out there can provide," he said. "It's to solve problems. It's to provide better service and more accuracy to the servicemembers."

IRS sets 2007 business travel mileage rate at 48.5 cents per mile

By Daniel Friedman
Federal Times.com

Employees driving their cars on federal business will probably be able to claim about nine percent more per mile traveled this year.

Beginning Monday the optional standard mileage rate used to calculate tax deductions is 48.5 cents for business miles driven, the IRS announced Nov. 1.

The 2006 rate was 44.5 cents per mile.

The General Services Administration, which sets the government mileage rate, typically adopts IRS' rates.

New rates for federal travel usually take effect Jan. 1.

According to an IRS news release: "The primary reasons for the higher rates were higher prices for vehicles and fuel during the year ending in October."

Community Features and Photos

Research -- A problem solving tool

By Lt. Col. Simon Goerger
ORCEN Director,
Dept. of Systems Engineering

Research isn't just for scientists in lab coats. It's a tool used by decision makers to gain insight into complex issues. At USMA, systems engineers routinely use research as a tool in the classroom, during projects and as part of faculty assignments.

USMA is a tremendous source of highly qualified scholars, analysts and problem solvers for the Army and Department of Defense. The academy addresses many issues

facing a variety of organizations, some of them through research. Research enhances cadet education, further develops faculty in their professional and academic disciplines and helps USMA maintain strong ties with Army and DOD agencies.

Research can also be used to integrate new technologies into USMA's academic program. For example, by applying the most advanced technology and techniques, USMA systems engineers are better able to ensure that cadets and faculty are keeping pace with, and comfortably

employing, emergent technologies for solving problems.

Some of the most recent examples of systems engineering research projects include the Armed Forces Casualty Assistance Readiness Enhancement System (AF-CARES), Chaplain Deployment Assignment Tool,

condition based maintenance, improvised explosive device and counter insurgence studies, Small Arms Weapon Effective Life, Assessment of Supply Chain Management for Rapid Fielding Initiative and the Effects Based Assessment Support System co-developed with the Department

of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science.

Research isn't just for nutty professors. It strengthens the problem solving skill set of students and faculty. It is a tool that makes us stronger problem solvers, decision makers and engineers. Research helps make us "Army Strong."

Warm weather boon to joggers

Submitted by the
USMA Safety Office

As the days grow shorter, often the only time available to jog or run is before sunrise or after sunset. We thought that now was a good time for a friendly reminder about USMA-wide requirements for jogging and running safely.

The following items summarize the rules on jogging/running as found in USMA Regulation 190-5. These items are enforceable by the Military Police.

■ Jogging or running during hours of darkness or limited light/visibility requires at least one item of reflective protective clothing to

be worn (reflective belt or vest).

■ Jogging or running on USMA roadways where sidewalks exist is prohibited.

■ Where there are no sidewalks, jog or run against the flow of traffic on the extreme shoulder of the roadway.

■ Jogging or running during periods of severe snow, rain or sleet is prohibited.

■ Headphones are prohibited while jogging or running.

■ Jogging or running on NYS Route 218 between Washington and Lee Gates is prohibited.

The bottom line is to stay safe. Recognize the risks inherent in jogging or running near traffic and manage them appropriately.

Think ahead while its warm and follow these winter driving tips

Compiled by Kathy Eastwood
Staff Writer

While our weather so far has been far from winter-like, it is still winter in New York and, therefore, driving under snowy or icy conditions will almost certainly be in our future.

Winter driving can be treacherous. Every year we hear of accidents caused during weather conditions on highways because people simply don't take the proper precautions. Many people assume that their four-wheel or front-wheel drive vehicles can handle all conditions. These vehicles still can encounter trouble on winter roads.

More than 450,000 crashes with injuries occur annually due to adverse weather conditions, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation. By taking the time to think about your safety and the safety of others, you can help to avoid accidents and injuries.

First things first -- make sure the vehicle is prepared for winter driving. The National Safety Council suggests the following:

- Check the ignition, brakes, wiring, hoses and fan belts.
- Change or adjust the spark plugs if needed.
- Check the battery.
- Make sure the tires have enough air and check the tread depth.
- Check the antifreeze levels and the freeze line.

There may be times when an emergency situation occurs. Be prepared for these emergencies by carrying essential equipment such as a properly inflated spare tire, wheel wrench and a car jack in the trunk. Also carry a shovel, jumper cables, tow and tire chains, bag of salt or cat litter and a tool kit.

Carry a 'survival kit,' which should remain in the car in any driving conditions. A survival kit should include:

- Flashlight with extra batteries.
- First aid kit.
- Reflective triangles, brightly-colored cloth and flares.
- Wooden stick matches in a waterproof container.
- Scissors and string or cord.
- Non-perishable, high-energy food like canned nuts, dried food or hard candy.

If driving long distances in cold, snowy or icy conditions, make sure to carry supplies to keep warm such as heavy woolen mittens, socks, hats and blankets.

There have been news items recently about people becoming

stranded in winter conditions with tragic results.

To ensure safety if stranded, do not leave the car unless you know exactly where your are, how far it is to help and are certain there will be an improvement in your situation.

Try to attract attention by lighting flares and hanging a brightly colored cloth from the vehicle's antenna. Make sure the exhaust is not blocked before running the engine and heater. It should only run for 10 minutes every hour or so, depending upon the amount of gas in the tank. To keep the vehicle from becoming sealed due to heavy snow or ice build-up always keep at least one window slightly open.

■ When driving in snow or on icy roads, decrease speed and leave plenty of room to stop. Allow at least three times more space between vehicles than usual. Brake gently to avoid skidding. If the wheels start to lock, ease off the brake.

■ Turn the lights on to increase visibility for other motorists and keep the lights and windshield as clean as possible.

■ Use low gears to increase traction, especially going up hills. Never use cruise control or overdrive on icy roads.

■ Bridges or overpasses, and infrequently traveled roads, tend



to freeze first, even at temperatures above freezing, so be especially careful when encountering these situations.

■ Never pass snow plows or sanding trucks. The drivers of these vehicles have limited visibility and the road in front of them is generally worse than the road behind them.

■ If the rear wheels skid, take your foot off the accelerator and steer in the direction the wheels

want to go. If the rear wheels are sliding left, steer left. If they are sliding right, steer right. Do not brake.

■ If the vehicle has standard brakes, pump them gently. If it has anti-lock brakes, do not pump them, but apply steady pressure to the brakes instead. The brakes could feel like they are pulsing, but this is normal.

■ If your front wheels skid, again take your foot off the

accelerator and shift into neutral, but don't try to steer immediately. As the wheels skid sideways, they will slow the vehicle and traction will return. Once it does, steer in the direction you want to go, then put the gear in drive or release the clutch and accelerate gently.

■ If stuck, do not spin the wheels, as this will only dig the vehicle in deeper. Turn the wheels from side to side a few times to push snow out of the way then use a light touch on the gas to ease the vehicle out.

■ Try rocking the vehicle. Check the owner's manual first as the transmission on some vehicles can be damaged. Shift from drive to reverse and back again. Apply a light touch on the gas each time you are in gear.

For more info. on winter driving safety tips go to <http://www.nsc.org/library/facts/winter.htm>.

Black & Gold volunteers



December’s Black and Gold volunteers were honored Dec. 14 by Garrison Commander Col. Brian Crawford and GC Command Sgt. Maj. Violet C. McNeirney. They are, front row, from left to right, Ann Cook, Monica Bailey, Joann Boone and Laura Tuit. Back row, left to right, Jennifer Butkus, Margaret Hill, Renee Lindberg and Theresa Tice. KATHY EASTWOOD/PV

NCO, Soldier of the Quarter



Staff Sgt. Willett Odom



Spc. Dustin Hinze

MEDDAC’s Staff Sgt. Willett Odom and Military Policeman Spc. Dustin Hinze were named the NCO and Soldier of the Quarter Dec. 14. KATHY EASTWOOD/PV



Cadet Glee Club still in high demand

Twenty-three members of the USMA Cadet Glee Club performed the national anthem at the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl Monday at the University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, Ariz., which was televised on FOX. As part of their trip, they also performed New Year’s Day on Good Morning Arizona, which is the #1 rated morning television show in Arizona, and Sunday sang for residents of the Carl T. Hayden VA Medical Center Nursing Home Care Unit. They will be performing the anthem again Monday at the BCS Championship Game, also held in Glendale and televised on FOX at 8 p.m. PHOTO SUBMITTED BY THE CADET GLEE CLUB

What's Happening

Red Cross moves

The West Point American Red Cross office has moved to Bldg. 2104, next to the Visitor's Center.

For more information, go to www.nyredcross.org.

West Point Women's Club

The WPWC Gift Shoppe, located next to the MWR Fitness Center, is open on the Web at www.shopthepoint.com, but is closed until February.

The shoppe is always open by appointment by contacting Julie at 446-2950.

Audie Murphy Club needs you

In an effort to organize a Sgt. Audie Murphy Club here at West Point, any Sgt. Audie Murphy Club and Sgt. Morales Club members are asked to contact one of three points of contact.

Contact Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey Mays at 938-3935, Master Sgt. Kim Perez at 938-8228, or Sgt. 1st Class Geraldine Hall at 938-3205.

They would like to have their first meeting here around the second week of January.

MLK luncheon Wednesday

The West Point Equal Opportunity office and the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. memorial committee will host a luncheon Wednesday at the West Point Club from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

DODEA Survey

Reminder to parents of West Point School children:

The anonymous Customer Satisfaction Survey is available online at www.dodea.edu by clicking the "CSS" link or a printed version can be obtained from the school.

You have until Feb. 28 to complete one, but don't wait until the last minute.

This is your chance to impact the quality of education in schools operated by the Department of Defense.

Separate surveys will be given to teachers and parents and to students in grades four and five, students in grades six to eight and students in grades nine through 12.

Retired Maj. Gen. Fred Gorden will be the guest speaker.

The Cadet Gospel Choir will also perform.

Tickets may be purchased from the following committee representatives:

-- Lt. Col. Dodge, EE&CS, x5569

-- Lt. Col. Govern, Law, x2488

-- Lt. Col. Smith, BS&L, x5635

-- Maj. Capozzi, EO, x7082

-- Maj. Miles, Math, x8135

-- Maj. Hunt, English, x2155

-- Dr. Bonner, EE&CS, x7674

-- Ms. Mauldin, Library, x7878

-- Sgt. 1st Class Gardner, EO, x2621

-- Sgt. 1st Class Potts, USCC, x8456

-- Sgt. 1st Class Highsmith-Evans, IETD, x3710.

Speed reading classes

The Center for Enhanced Performance is offering a speed reading course, RS102, beginning Monday at the CEP Reading Lab in Washington Hall room 6108.

Last semester's RS102 student's had a beginning average reading rate of 265 words per minute at 86 percent comprehension. After 10 sessions, the average student read at 880 WPM and 86 percent comprehension.

To sign up, e-mail CEP's Kathy Eagan at 7k8716@usma.edu, call her at 938-3421 or visit her at her office at WH6307A.

Armed Forces Blood Drive

The Armed Services Blood Program is proud to announce the 2007 West Point blood drive to be held Monday through Thursday in Eisenhower Hall from 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. each day. This massive blood drive would not be possible without the assistance of the American Red Cross and countless volunteers from around the West Point area. Although there are many who make this annual event a resounding success, the critical element is YOU. Those who give blood are the core contributors

to any successful blood drive. Thank you in advance.

To confirm eligibility, your first action item is to visit Eisenhower Hall during the days and hours listed above. New rules are put in place or standard rules change frequently and coming to the drive is the best way to determine if you can donate blood. For more information or answers to questions on restrictions, please call, (202) 329-5107.

Everyone is encouraged to bring a friend or bring a group.



JANUARY MWR COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Visit MWR online at
www.usma.edu/mwr

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



Get fit in 2007

The Winter Meltdown Fitness Challenge begins January 8th at the MWR Fitness Center. Have fun and shed the holiday pounds while earning points to win prizes!
For more info, call 938-6490

7

Open Skate, 3:30-5pm, Tate Rink

8

Video Teleconference, 8am-4:30pm, ACS
Wee Ones Play Group, 9:30-11am, ACS
Parent & Me, 9:30-10:45 (18 mos-4yrs) YC

9

Preseparation Briefing, 2-3pm, ACS
Spinning, 5:40am, Group Pump, 9am, Cardio Blast, 5pm (Every Wednesday at the MWR Fitness Center)

**10**

Seasonal Camper Site Lottery Ends, 5pm, R Pond
Cardio Sculpt, 9am, Spinning, 5pm (Every Wednesday at the MWR Fitness Center)

**11**

Parent & Me, 9:30-10am (2-4 yrs) YC
Parent Advisory Meeting, 12-1pm, CDC
Theater Van to Broadway, 5-11:30pm, ITR

5

Fine Arts Exhibit, 4-6pm, YC

**6**

Winter Ball, 6-9pm (grades 6 & 7) YC

**14**

Open Skate, 3:30-5pm, Tate Rink

**15**

Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

All MWR Activities Closed
Except for Ski & Morgan Farm

**16**

Round Pond Tent/RV Site Reservations Begin (military only) 938-8811

**17**

Cardio Sculpt, 9am, Spinning, 5pm, Every Wednesday at the MWR Fitness Center

**18**

Parent & Me, 9:30-10am (2-4 yrs) YC
Reintegration & Reunion Workshop, 8am-4:30pm, ACS
Spring Sports Luncheon, 11:30am, WP Club

**19**

Free Ski/Snowboard Lesson, 2-5pm, WP Ski (Soldiers Only)
Friday Night in NYC, 5-11:30pm, ITR
BOSS Poker Tournament, 6:30-10pm, BSP

20

Defensive Driving, 8am-5pm, Now held @ ACS, Register at ITR
Walk-In Ski Lessons, 9am & 10:30am @ WP Ski

Keller Corner

Flu shots still available

Flu shots will be available to all eligible beneficiaries at the KACH immunization clinic on a walk-in basis until supplies are exhausted.

Childbirth preparation classes

[Three-week series] Classes start Jan. 16 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in KACH's second floor classroom. Call OBU at 938-3210.

If you are expecting a baby before mid-April, sign up now because the next series begins in March.

Armed Services Blood Drive

The Armed Services Blood Drive is Monday through Thursday in the Eisenhower Hall

Ballroom from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Blood collected during this drive supports all military services.

Visit www.militaryblood.dod.mil for answers to deferral questions.

Volunteers needed

Keller Hospital front desk needs volunteers. Call West Point Red Cross director Michele Strom at 938-4100.

Did you know ...

A medical appointment is a terrible thing to waste?

Keller had a total of 941 "no shows" for July, August and Sept. 2006. "No shows" occur when patients arrive more than 10 minutes after the appointed time or miss appointments entirely.

You can help Keller save

these valuable appointments for your and others by having your calendar handy when you make your appointment, allowing enough travel and parking time to arrive at your appointments 15 minutes early and by calling the Appointment Center at (845) 938-7992 or (800) 552-2907 to cancel your appointment as soon as you know you can't keep it.

Except for federal holidays, the Keller Appointment Center is open Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. until 7 p.m.

Holiday wish list

A holiday wish list is one way that all your desires are made known. Keller hospital would like to wish that all our female beneficiaries make yearly well-women appointments.

DPW Notes



Resident snow removal reminders

With the warmer than usual temperatures we have been experiencing, it may be hard to remember that winter is just getting started and snow/ice is on the way. Here are some reminders for residents as we prepare for the first snowflakes to fall:

1. If you have not already done so, clear away basketball goals and other outside equipment from the roadways, especially the service roads, to give the snow plows plenty of room to maneuver during a snow event. Additionally, if you have a deck, patio or porch or other feature that is close to the edge of the road, please clearly mark it so it can be seen easily during winter weather conditions.

2. Visit the DPW Self Help Center, Bldg 695, to pick up snow removal supplies, liquid de-icer, snow shovels and ice choppers. Government-owned snow blowers have been distributed throughout the housing areas. If you do not know who has the nearest snow blower to your quarters, contact your area coordinator to find out.

3. All residents are required to clear their sidewalks and stairs of ice and snow within 24 hours of the conclusion of a weather event. If you are expecting the delivery or pick up of an appliance, please have the pathway that will be used clear prior to the scheduled time. Additionally, please clear the pathways and landings leading to mechanical rooms. This will allow our work crews access to heating

and other systems quickly and safely.

4. Each resident must share the responsibility of shoveling common areas as directed or scheduled by the area coordinator.

5. If there is a fire hydrant within your property limits or at the edge of it, you are required to clear all ice and snow to allow for quick access. This will save valuable time in a fire emergency.

6. Residents must ensure there is ready access to their solid waste collection point and fuel oil fill pipe. The contractor must have safe access to those locations. If the contractor is unable to reach those sites, your trash will not be picked up and fuel oil will not be delivered. Running out of fuel oil will cause

loss of heat and/or hot water in your quarters. Quarters heated by fuel oil are: North Apartments, 142, 501, 502, 503, 509, 510, 511, 1000, 1002, 1004, 1006, 1008, 1010, 1280 and 2020.

7. Residents are reminded that the Post Office will not deliver mail if there is not clear, safe access to your mail box.

8. It is suggested that residents use a snow rake (which is available for loan at the Self Help Center) or other similars device to remove snow from the gutters and the roof edges at periodic intervals. This is particularly important after a heavy snowfall. It will prevent snow and ice from clogging the gutter system and reduce the danger of falling ice.

9. Be sure to clean storm sewer grates so that the water from melting snow and ice will not back up in the street or into your basement.

10. All of the above responsibilities must be accomplished within 24 hours of the conclusion of a weather event.

During a snow event, the roads, parking lots and common area sidewalks are cleared in accordance with a specific priority order as outlined in USMA Reg 420-8. Please do not ask the operators to divert from their assignments to "do you a favor." This could create delays for your neighbors and other areas of post. During winter weather, DPW operates on a 24-hour basis to get USMA's roads clear and keep them clear. We also operate a Snow Control Desk at 938-4707 on a 24-hour basis for questions or concerns on snow removal operations.

All personnel should stay away from operating snow removal equipment. Not only is this equipment large and cumbersome to control, but there are often blind spots where the driver cannot see you.

As a safety reminder, teach your children not to dig caves or tunnel through large drifts of snow. There is a real danger of the walls of their play cave giving way and of children being trapped inside.

mWR Blurbs

No gas at PX Shopette

Due to temporary construction, the PX Shopette will not have gas from Monday through Jan. 12, weather permitting.

For more information, call AAFES' Armond DiPoalo at 938-3754.

General Public Skate

Tate Rink will be closed to general public skating Jan. 21 and 28. For more information, call 938-3066.

Spring sports luncheon

The Spring sports luncheon will be at the West Point Club, Jan. 18, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

For more information, call 938-5120.

WPC Family Night Buffet

The West Point Club will feature Family Night Buffet Jan. 25 from 5 to 7 p.m.

Families of deployed spouses will be admitted free. For more information, call 938-5120.

Youth Center Art exhibit

There will be a Fine Arts Exhibit

at the Youth Center today from 4 to 6 p.m. featuring the artistic talent of West Point youth.

Refreshments will be served. Call 938-8525 for more information.

ESL classes

English as a second language, 10-week course, beginner and advanced levels begins Tuesday through March 15. Classes will be Tues. and Thurs. from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the ACS Training Room, Bldg. 622.

For more information, call Megan Calero at (845) 938-3487 or e-mail her at Megan.Calero@usma.edu.

Solution to Weekly Sudoku

6	5	9	8	4	7	1	3	2
4	3	8	1	2	6	5	9	7
2	1	7	9	3	5	6	4	8
8	4	1	7	6	3	9	2	5
5	7	6	4	9	2	3	8	1
3	9	2	5	1	8	7	6	4
9	8	3	2	5	1	4	7	6
1	2	4	6	7	9	8	5	3
7	6	5	3	8	4	2	1	9

Command Channel 8/23

Jan. 5 - Jan. 12

Friday

8:30 a.m. Army Newswatch
1 p.m. Army Newswatch
6 p.m. Army Newswatch

Monday - Jan. 12

8:30 a.m. Army Newswatch
1 p.m. Army Newswatch
6 p.m. Army Newswatch

NOW SHOWING

in the movie theater at Mahan Hall, Bldg. 752

Friday -- Deck the Halls, PG, 7:30 p.m.
Friday -- Casino Royale, PG-13, 9:30 p.m.
Saturday -- Happy Feet, PG, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday -- Flags of our Fathers, R, 9:30 p.m.
Jan. 12 -- Deja Vu, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.
Jan. 13 -- Casino Royale, PG-13, 7:30 p.m.
Jan. 19 -- Flushed Away, PG, 7:30 p.m.
Jan. 19 -- Borat, R, 9:30 p.m.

The theater schedule can also be found at www.aafes.com.

Army and Community Sports

Dinga, White named to Clemens Watch List

WEST POINT, N.Y. -- Army's baseball team continues to receive a great deal of national attention during the offseason.

Senior Milan Dinga and junior Cole White are the latest Black Knights to garner national plaudits as both were recently named to the Watch List for the 2007 Roger Clemens Award.

It marks the third straight year that Army has had at least one pitcher represented on the list, with standout senior southpaw Nick Hill honored each of the past two seasons.

While Dinga rates as one of the nation's top relief specialists, White remains a solid force in the Black Knights' starting rotation.

The Army duo ranks among 62 individuals named to the Watch List for the Clemens Award, presented annually to the country's top pitcher. In all, players from 22 NCAA Division I conferences are represented on the list. Army is among 14 schools boasting two candidates. The others include Alabama, Arkansas, Florida State, Notre Dame, Ohio State, Pepperdine, Rice, TCU, Texas, Tulane, UC-Irvine, Virginia and Wichita State.

Army's career leader in saves, Dinga was previously named to the 2007 National Collegiate Baseball Writers Preseason All-America First Team this winter. He has also been included on the 2007 Brooks Wallace Award Watch List, presented annually to the nation's top player. Dinga doubles as the Black Knights' starting left fielder and ranks in the top 10 of a host of Army's career offensive categories.

After establishing new single season (10) and career (21) records for saves last spring, Dinga was named to the 2006 Pro-Line Cap Company All-America Team presented by The National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association on the strength of a dominant season in which he established himself as one of the nation's top relievers.

The Tampa, Fla., native went 2-0 with a microscopic 0.48 ERA over

18.2 innings of work. He struck out 22 and walked only two while limiting opponents to a meager .185 batting average. He allowed one earned run in his first outing of the season, but did not yield another run the remainder of the year. With 16 consecutive scoreless appearances to end the year, Dinga eclipsed the school standard of 14 consecutive scoreless outings he set last spring. He collected five saves in eight Patriot League pitching appearances, allowing just five hits across eight innings of work. He struck out 11 and walked only one in conference action.

One year after garnering Freshman All-America honors and earning All-Patriot League accolades at two different positions, White was selected to the Patriot League's first team all-star squad at first base and second team as a starting pitcher last spring.

The native of Midland, Texas, remained one of the Patriot League's top starting pitchers last spring, posting an overall record of 5-4 with a respectable 2.48 earned run average. He allowed 59 hits in 58.0 innings, striking out 50 and walking 16. Despite authoring a gaudy 1.38 ERA in 26.0 innings of Patriot League play, White had tough luck, finishing 1-2 in five conference starts. He allowed just 23 hits in conference action, fanning 26 and walking seven.

The finalists for the 2007 Roger Clemens Award will be selected in voting by a national panel that includes all Division I head baseball coaches and a selection of national media who cover collegiate baseball.

The Roger Clemens Award was named after future Hall of Fame pitcher Roger Clemens, who began his march to stardom while leading Texas to the College World Series title in 1983.

Clemens has gone on to register 348 career victories in the major leagues, captured seven Cy Young Awards and piled up nearly 4,604 strikeouts.

The Roger Clemens Award is the only one of its kind, honoring the nation's finest college pitchers.



P Cole White

ERIC BARTELT/PV